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Making the
bitter "m"
based on
habitat
actions

Red-legged frog

Goal: "M" is O.K.

Prescription: Protect existing habitat and restore additional suitable aquatic, wetland, and riparian habitats.

Conservation Measures:

- create viable, self-sustaining populations that are connected to other populations
- reduce mortality from non-native predators
- reduce the use of herbicides that adversely affect the frog and its habitat
- restrict the clearing of vegetation from canal banks or the excavation of a canal to no more than one linear half during any given year
- restrict activities such as clearing or dredging to the months of March to October

Aleutian Canada Goose

Goal: "M" is O.K.

Table showing associated aquatic NCCP Habitats: Add grassland and natural seasonal wetland habitat.

Prescription: 7,500 geese

Conservation Measures:

- To provide 25,000 to 35,000 acres of feeding and roosting habitat; feeding habitats include pasture, harvested grain and bean fields, and sprouting winter wheat fields; roosting habitat includes large ponds, larks, and off-shore islands.

Snowy Egret (rookery)

Goal: "M" is O.K.

Prescription: Identify and protect remaining snowy egret rookeries while restoring additional rookery sites.

Conservation Measures:

- create 5 new rookery sites that have a minimum of 5 breeding pairs using the site

San Joaquin Kit Fox

Goal: "M" is O.K.

Prescription: Protect existing San Joaquin kit fox habitat while enhancing existing and restoring corridors of movement between metapopulations.

Conservation Measures:

1. Within 60 days prior to the beginning of construction activities or any project activity likely to impact the San Joaquin kit fox, pre-construction or pre-activity surveys should be conducted by a qualified biologist. Surveys should determine the presence or absence of the kit fox on the project site(s), identify specific uses of the area by kit fox if possible, and assess the potential impacts to the species of the proposed activity. Survey methodologies should follow techniques acceptable to USFWS and CDFG.
2. If avoidance is not possible, limited den destruction may be permitted. Coordination with USFWS and CDFG prior to destruction will be necessary.
3. Activities should be conducted between March 1 and July 31 when kit fox activities are the easiest to detect.
4. Following pre-construction activities and before project activities begin, protective exclusion zones should be established around all known and potential San Joaquin kit fox dens. The size of these zones should be determined on a project-specific basis in consultation with USFWS and CDFG. Construction related and other project activities should be prohibited within these exclusion zones. Only essential vehicle operation on existing roads and simple foot traffic should be permitted.
5. Project-related vehicles should observe a 20 mph speed limit in all project areas, except on county roads and State and Federal highways; this is especially important at night when kit fox are most active. To the extent possible, night time construction should be minimized.
6. To prevent inadvertent entrapment of kit foxes or other animals during the construction phase of a project, all excavated, steep-walled holes or trenches more than 2 feet deep should be covered at the close of each working day by plywood or similar materials, or provided with one or more escape ramps constructed of earth fill or wooden planks. Before such holes or trenches are filled, they should be thoroughly inspected for trapped animals.
7. All construction pipes, culverts, or similar structures with a diameter of 4 or more inches that are stored at a construction site for any one or more overnight periods should be thoroughly inspected for kit foxes before the pipe is subsequently buried, capped, or otherwise used or moved in any way.
8. All food related trash items such as wrappers, cans, bottles, and food scraps should be disposed of in closed containers only and regularly removed from a construction or other project site.
9. No pets should be permitted on project sites.
10. Use of rodenticides or herbicides in project areas with known kit fox occurrences should be restricted.

Consider adding the following conservation measures:

Valley Riparian Species such as: Least Bell's Vireo and California Yellow Warbler

Time management/restoration activities to avoid nesting and fledging of young bird species.

Manage grazing to ensure recruitment of young riparian deciduous shrubs and to avoid direct impacts to ground-nesting birds.

Control star thistle and other weedy non-native species to promote a diverse herb layer.

Yellow-Billed Cuckoo

The focus of restoration efforts should occur along the Sacramento River from Red Bluff to Colusa.

Restoration of habitat requires patches be a minimum of 50-100 acres, with a minimum width of 100 meters per pair. Optimal habitat for a pair would be 180 acres or more, and wider than 600 meters. Adjacent to suitable habitat should be upland refugia habitats for foraging in wet years.

Restore and manage riparian forests to promote structural diversity and volume of the understory to increase the value of existing/ongoing habitat and restoration projects.

Control the use of herbicides and pesticides in adjacent orchards.

Avoid groupings of cattle, associated facilities, and human habitation near high-priority riparian nest site during the breeding season. These land uses provide foraging areas for cowbirds.

Develop brown-headed cowbird control measures.

Use a groundcover in orchards and vineyards to discourage foraging by brown-headed cowbirds and increase productivity. If this vegetation is to be managed, avoid mowing through the nesting season or mow to 6 inches or less to discourage nesting.